



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 69TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY BRIGADE
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544

AFVL-GSB-CO

1 September 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Holiday Safety Message

1. The winter holiday season signifies celebration of accomplishment, friendships, family, various faiths and the brightness of a new year. While the holiday festivities we enjoy often make memories for a lifetime, they unfortunately can shorten lives and leave only memories as well.

2. Leaders at all levels must recognize and assess the hazards associated with the holiday period and take appropriate measures to reduce risk. The main hazards we face are an increase in alcohol consumption, and winter weather accidents and injuries. Many will increase their alcohol consumption while celebrating with friends, while others will drink to reduce a general sense of depression that they feel while away from home. The unpredictable weather patterns in central Texas can sometimes presents early morning patterns of ice and even snow that present numerous opportunities for accidents or injury on and off duty.

3. Supervisors are charged to find out what their subordinates are doing over the holidays and help them make the right choices. I charge leaders to identify hazards to "their" soldiers and aggressively find ways to prevent those hazards from causing injury. Commanders will organize events that bring everyone together to celebrate safely. Leaders will take extra time to assess the risks associated with on and off duty activity and enforce controls to prevent accidents. Our Soldiers' families expect the very finest leadership and effort we can provide during this period. We cannot afford to lose a single Soldier due to an accident or mishap.

4. I wish each of you and your families a very safe and enjoyable holiday season. Everyone deserves to be proud of their accomplishments. I look forward to seeing every member of our team ready to support the mission at the end of the holiday season. Happy Holidays!


JAMES H. JENKINS III
COL, AD
Commanding